Editor

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Lincoln and Darwin

HE GREAT Darwin and the great Lincoln were born on the same day. Was it meant that the innate divinity of the latter should stand an impeachment of the wonderful science and learning of the other? We sometimes think so. In his rude cradie, Abraham Lincoln, to all human eyes, save those of his mother, was not the equal of the ape of the same age. Fifty-six years later, when Lincoln died, the cries of a grief-stricken people were his requiem, and our belief is that as his stately shade entered through the pearly gates every choir in Paradise sang a welcome, and every harp rang out in a welcome acclaim. And neither the man nor the ape had changed. The ape was what his ancestors were in the garden. The man was as the first man when the Infinite breathed life into his nostrils and he stood forth a living soul. The ape has not increased in knowledge, he is the same ape, men have grined much in knowledge, but here and there one rises up, and suddenly, when the call comes, he draws upon the original soul and speaks words that make us know that had he never seen a book, he still would have been greater than any book-made man in all the world. Looking back along the centry s, we do not think there is any evidence that the stature of greatness has been enlarged. He has gained in knowledge, he has mastered many of nature's secrets, he has stored his mind with the facts of the past, and, opening one door after another in the laboratory of nature, he has seized and appropriated the treasures found within. But has any poet written grander thoughts than dld the first one of whom we have any knowledge? Has there ever been a modern soldier greater than the great Julius? or an intellect higher than Aristotles? Did not Washington have a model in Cincinnatus? Has any modern orator stirred the souls of men as did Demosthenes? Did man learn any mercy until the Christ came? Man has increased immensely in knowledge, but has he gained in wisdom? His acquired knowledge is vastly greater than of old, but in intuitive genius has there been any improvement? If any one thinks there has, let him read Isalah and Job, and reflect that they were written three thousand years before there was a university or a daily paper or a perfecting press, or a magnetic telegraph or a wireless, and still can any modern man give expression to higher thoughts or clothe them in more sublime diction? Returning to Lincoln, even after the people recognized the divinity within him and gave him the great office of Chief Magistrate, those near him could not understand how such a man could ever be called great. He lacked in polish, he lacked in learning, he knew nothing of the finer courtesies of society, and the brilliant men around him were in despair. They did not know that his soul was a diamond which the friction of the war was polishing, until, when the time was ripe, on one immortal day, it suddenly blazed out with a splender which blinded them, and then they knew that to his cabin home an angel came, and, bending over his rude cradle, placed the signet of immortality upon his haby brow.

And it was a notice served upon mankind that

great knowledge cannot save a land, but there must be something to give active life to that germ called patriotism, which enlists all the native faculties of brain and heart and conscience and justice in a human being, and makes him lose the stains that have come to poor humanity through the ages, and leave him in his native divinity as was the first man when God breathed immortal life into his nostrils and made him a living spirit.

The Power That Rules

YNDALL says that Kepler taught Newton that the planets moved, as we now understand their motions, but then the question came to Newton: "Why do they move?" and he had to solve that problem to insure his intellectual peace. The thought came to him that every particle of matter attracts every other particle according to the inverse square of the distance between the particles, and this Tyndall calls "the all-pervading force which is the solder of the material universe." Then, while gravitation is a purely attractive force, Tyndall adds that "in electricity and magnetism, repulsion always been seen to accompany attraction." Then he explains that if a strip of magnetized steel is held by its center, one-half attracts and the other half repells. Break the strip in two in the center and the same phenomenon is seen, the half is like the whole, one end attracts, the other repells. And this goes down to the smallest fragment. The least one has two poles, and is a perfect magnet. If this is true, is it not possible that gravitation is merely the product of the working forces of electricity, and that it is not a native force incident to matter, even as dropsy is not a disease, but the outward evidence that there is disease in heart, liver or kidneys? Are not electricity and magnetism not only nature's vital forces, but is it not their accractive and repellent properties that, on the earth runs a street car or a sewing machine or a motor, or out in space holds the planets and suns steady in their courses? It surely looks like a reasonable conclusion. A wireless message is shot out into space. The elements have no effect upon it. Storms rage in vain in its path, mountains are upreared to opposed it in vain, heat or cold cannot retard it, but when it comes in range of the attracting pole of a magnet, it at once responds, and the message is delivered without one letter changed. If this is true of an intangible something, why can not it be true of a planet or sun? It surely is a vital force. A touch of it destroys a life, or lights a great structure, or explodes a deep mine. It was the agent called upon when the command was given, "Let there be light." That command has been haunting thoughtful souls ever since, and the cry in them has been the same, "Let there be light!" and when the light fully shines into men's souls, is it not possible that they will comprehend the truth that the power which lights the worlds is the same that moves them, and that it is the only agent which the Creator employs when he creates and sets in motion new stars?

Reform the Census

THE COMING congress will have to make the appropriation for the census of 1910. It is estimated that it will cost \$14,000,000. It would be well for congress to appoint a commission to revise census methods, for it is a clear case that it is now laid out on a scale so immerse that it is outside the range of most of the people. We believe that two-thirds of it could be cut to the great advantage of the whole country. Census reports are, as now presented, a mighty wear and tear upon the constitutions of those who try to wade through them. We believe that careful editing would eliminate onehalf their bulk. And after having been carefully edited, then to have the work done over and more perfectly systematized might reduce them onehalf more. And the work should be completed in a year. The census ought to be for immediate use. Suppose a publisher were to undertake such a work and know that he must depend upon the sale of his work to get even, would there be any such reports as are now put out? The important facts would be condensed, set in order and indexed, so that a reader could, in a moment, find any important fact, and the matter would be so interesting that thousands and tens of thousands of men would buy the work. How many would buy them in their present form? The census of 1910 ought to be a radical change from all former ones.

Tariff and Shipping

THE NATION, of New York, is delighted over Carnegie's article in the Century, in which he says the steel manufacturers do not need any tariff for their product, that though they pay better wages than are paid abroad, the real cost of producing a ton of steel in this country is less than in England and Germany. By that he doubtless means that on this side there has t en more skill shown in building steel works, and so adjusting matters that the work here is more automatically performed. We suspect that is true, for it has always been the rule with the steel makers to adopt every improvement, no matter at what cost, and in every possible way make machinery perform just as much of the work as possible,

From the article, the Nation draws the conclusion that the utmost publicity will be given as to cost and methods, not only of making steel, but on all other material which the tariff protects. This certainly should be the case, for the tariff should only protect industries that would fail or be profitless without it. It should not, however, be so much reduced that the cost to the consumer would be the same whether the native or the foreign article was purchased, for with that the money of the country would at once begin to drift abroad, and the country would at once begin to fill with foreign goods, and one after another of our manufactures would close, and what happened in 1857 would be repeated. It is the study of all foreign powers to keep every dollar possible at home. Our statesmen have never seemed to take the importance of that principle into consideration. If they had, we should not now be paying foreign ship owners for fares and freights a sum annually equal to twice the value of the gold and silver taken from our mines. The necessities of foreign countries have forced them to buy of the United States food and textiles to the amount of \$400,000,000 annually more than our country has purchased in return, every year for the past dozen years. But it has all been absorbed in fares and freights and interest money paid to foreigners. One of these years there will be bad crops on this side, and then there will be trouble. Had we carried our own passengers and ocean freights for the last twelve years, there would now have been \$2,500,000,000 more money in the country, which would have insured a prosperity unheard of in any other land since the beginning of time. Had a subsidy of \$10,000,00 annually been paid, it would have been but a low interest on what was paid out, and then, all of it, interest and principal, would have been held at home. And by this time there would have been quite 300,000 skilled workers at work that are not working now. At work building and repairing ships, mining coal and iron to be converted into steel, out of which to build the ships and their engines and boilers, and our government would not now be hiring foreign colliers to supply our battle ships on their way around the